IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

**ART UNIT: 1645** 

EXAMINER: Swartz, Rodney P.

SERIAL NO: 09/646,579

FILING DATE: 12/27/2000

INVENTOR: Ebringer

TITLE: Diagnosis of Spongiform or De-Myelinating Disease

**BOX: FEE** 

U.S. Patent & Trademark Office

Washington, DC 20231

TECH CENTER 1600/2900

Certificate of Mailing: I hereby certify that this Response and the papers indicated as being transmitted herewith is being deposited with the United States Postal service as First-Class Mail on this date Mark 21 2003, in an envelope addressed to the Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.

## RESPONSE TO NON-FINAL OFFICE ACTION, 37 CFR §1.111

Dear Sir:

Responsive to the Office Action dated September 27, 2002, the time period for response thereto being set to expire March 27, 2003, by virtue of the Petition for Three-Month Extension of Time filed herewith, Applicant respectfully requests favorable reconsideration in view of the following amendment and accompanying remarks, along with the substitute Declaration, Terminal Disclaimer, Certificate Under §3.73(b), and Rule 132 Declaration of Alan Ebringer, filed herewith.

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 2 of this paper.

An Abstract is included at page 3 of this paper.

Amendments to the Claims begin on page 4 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 7 of this paper.